Rs. 95 crores has been released till January, 1991.

(c) During 1991-92, the Union Government (Ministry of Railways) and the State Governments of Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka and Kerala are required to contribute Rs. 100 crores towards equity capital of the Konkan Railway Corporation.

Promotion of Tourism in Kerala

79. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the project being submitted by Kerala Government for promotion of tourism in the State; and

(b) if so, the response of the Central Government towards the same and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINGH): (a) and (b) During 1990-91 the following projects were received from Government of Kerala for promotion of tourism:—

(i) Visitor's Centre at Trivandrum

(ii) Tourist Lodge at Vaikem

Ministry of Tourism have sanctioned both the projects have released the first instalment.

Handing over of Kapurthala Plot in Delhi to the Government of Kerala

80. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) by when the Kapurthala plot, which belongs to the Government of Kerala, would be handed over to the State Government; and

(b) the reasons for the delay in handing over of the said plot?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN): (a) and (b) Out of a total of 6.05 acres of Kapurthala plot, 2.164 acres have already been handed over to the Govt. of Kerala. The remaining land is under use of Delhi Police. The delay in handing over the remaining area has been due to the difficulty in locating suitable land and making alternative arrangements for the Delhi Police Unit, presently occupying a portion of the said plot. The remaining land would be vacated in due course.

Pending proposals from Kerala

81. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals pending with Government for clearance and consideration received from the State Government of Kerala in the Agricultural sector; and

(b) what is Government's response towards each of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b) Government have received certain proposals like development of oilseeds coconut, fisheries, modernisation of existing slaughter houses etc. from the Government of Kerala which are under examination.

Dental of Charges by NDDB Chief

82. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Times of India dated the 7th February, 1991 under the caption 'National Dairy Development Board Chief denies Pawar's charge' stating that hoarding edible oil and profiteering has not been there in NDDB;

(b) whether Government propose to conduct any enquiry into the charges levelled by the Chief Minister of Maharashtra against NDDB; and

(c) whether it is a fact that NDDB was having sufficient quantity of edible oil for distribution during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The question of enquiry into the NDDB's activities under market intervention operations does not arise. NDDB is implementing market intervention operations on behalf of the Central Government in accordance with the terms and conditions laid down by the Government.

(c) NDDB's stock of edible oil, created under the market intervention operations, is not meant to meet the entire demand of a particular place or State. The market intervention operations' stocks are meant to play a moderating role in the edible oil market and the stocks are being used for this purpose.

Ban on felling of trees for manufacturing of Railway Sleepers

83. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that felling of trees for manufacturing railway sleepers has been banned; and

(b) if so, what alternative arrangement have been made by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): (a) No, Sir. However, to conserve forest wealth of the country, Railways have drastically reduced the intake of wooden sleepers already and further reduction is in process;

(b) Incrased production and use of concrete sleepers.

Suicide by Scientist of ICAR

84. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Scientist of ICAR committed suicide in the month of January, 1991 due to harassment of high ups in the organisation;

(b) if so, whether Government have conducted any enquiry into the matter;

(c) if so, what are the findings thereof;

(a) whether it is also a fact that in the past also a number of ICAR Scientists had committed suicide on similar grounds; and

(e) if so, what are the particulars of such Scientists and the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government to prevent such incidents in the future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) to (c) Sir, A Scientist of the Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajahmundry was found dead in the institute on 7th January, 1991. A committee has been constituted to inquire into the matter. Report of the committee has not been received so far.

(d) No Sir, In no case of alleged suicide, harassment by high ups has been proved to be the cause.

(e) Does not arise.

Charges in the norms for setting up of Sugar Mills

85. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have changed norms for setting up of sugar mills;